



The Gleaner.

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY

By the Students of

THE NATIONAL FARM SCHOOL,

Doylestown, Pa.

THE GLEANER.

Vol. I.

NATIONAL FARM SCHOOL, JUNE, 1901.

No. 5.

MY FORTUNE.

Bending over the teacups,
My fancy a romance weaves,
As I sit here idly dreaming
Of the fortune in the leaves.

Tell me, and tell me truly,
Ye little curled up things,
That from the land of mysteries
Such wondrous knowledge brings—

Tell me if fay or fairy,
Or guardian angel sweet,
Or witch of uncanny nature
Will pilot my wayward feet

Through the hazy mists of the future,
Past which my soul must stray,
O'er the valleys and snow capped
mountains
To the horizon of the far away.

Tell me if love's bright pinions
Will hover over my head,
Or if sorrow's gloomy phantoms
Will darken the air instead.

Tell me if the holiest mission
Of my life will be fulfilled,
Or if the work undone remains
When my beating heart is stilled.

And, lastly, I pray you tell me
If the jeweled gates of gold
Will receive my worn out spirit
When the scrolls of Time unfold.

—Exchange.

THOMAS HENRY HUXLEY.

Thomas Henry Huxley was born at Ealing, Middlesex County, England, on the 4th of May, 1825. With the exception of a few years at Ealing school, of which his father was teacher, his education was chiefly conducted at home. He entered the Medical College at seventeen and graduated in three years. Accepting the position of surgeon in the Royal navy, he attained the opportunity of ac-

companying Captain Stanley's expedition. While the ship was plowing its way amidst the waters, his thoughts were working out a path for his future. He made extensive and valuable observations on the fauna and flora of the various countries visited. After the voyage was completed he began to mingle among the circle of science, though yet unknown for his talents.

The qualities that made Huxley what he was were alertness, the most influential and effective, a quickness of apprehension, and a clear way of thinking. In dealing with any problem he would accept nothing that lacked substantial proof; going about in a light and clear way, perceiving the future consequences of instant action which formed the greater part of what is termed sagacity. The one gave him his dialectic skill, the other his argumentative ability.

More powerful was his moral qualities—bent on following the truth and doing right, swerving from no appellation either for the sake of recompense or for the fear of his enemies; a man whose aversion of all that was unjust, false and cowardly was but the "reciprocal of nobleness and courage."

His sole aim was to become a physiologist, and he would probably have become a great one had not the force of circumstances made him abandon this idea. Man is a victim of circumstances. As the existing conditions change, so must men follow that change; as a stage of progress and civilization succeeds a stage of stability and barbarism, so must men give up their old ideas and customs and accept those ideas and customs that

will aid them in their present existence.

The world to-day rejoices that circumstances were against his wish. Having taken up the problem of biology, he became the leader of that science. Owen was well known among biologists, and had he not fallen into philosophical speculation, looked after the practical as well as the theoretical, he would perhaps be known as the only peer among biologists. Huxley, on the other hand, accepted nothing that had not the strongest and soundest foundation. His workings were twofold, the practical as well as the theoretical, and by the reconciliation of both he solved the most complicated problems in biology and become its foremost leader.

How delightful was it to him to extend a helping hand to the young men, to direct their early thoughts to truth! He well knew that the world of science must look back to them as her future leaders.

In 1859 the promulgation of Darwin's view aroused popular interest. Huxley at once began his missionary work. Lectures were delivered, and these were reviewed and published in various journals. Answers and criticisms came in rapid succession. The theologist as well as the scientist raged in opposition; and Huxley was declared an infidel.

"A memorable occasion was the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in the year 1860, following the publication of the *Origin of Species*. A discussion of the subject was precipitated by the presentation of a communication by our own Drapper on 'The intellectual development of Europe with reference to the views of Mr. Darwin and others that the progression of organisms is determined by law.' The Rev. Mr. Cresswell and the Rev. Dr. Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford, followed in opposition, and they

were answered by Huxley. The scene has lately been redescribed by a great physiologist and friend of Huxley, who is one of the few witnesses who now remain.

"The room was crowded, though it was Saturday, and the meeting was excited. The bishop had spoken; cheered loudly from time to time during his speech, he sat down amid rapturous applause, ladies waving their handkerchiefs with great enthusiasm; and in almost dead silence, broken merely by greetings which, coming only from the few who knew, seemed as nothing, Huxley then well nigh unknown outside the narrow circle of scientific work, began his reply. A cheer, chiefly from a knot of young men in the audience, hearty but seeming scant through the fewness of those who gave it, and almost angrily resented by some, welcomed the first point made. Then as, slowly and measuredly at first, more quickly and with more vigor later, stroke followed stroke, the circle of cheers grew wider and yet wider until the speaker's last words were crowned with applause following not far short of, indeed equaling that which had gone before—an applause hearty and genuine in its recognition that a strong man had arisen among the biologists of England.

"The versatile bishop indulged in the argumentum ad hominem so very trite and familiar to us all (who has not heard it?) He would like to hear from Mr. Huxley whether it was by his grandfather's or grandmother's side that he was related to an ape.

"Huxley replied: 'I asserted, and I repeat, that a man would have no reason to be ashamed of having an ape for a grandfather. If there were an ancestor whom I should feel shame in recalling it would be a man; a man of restless and versatile intellect who, not content with

an equivocal success in his own sphere of activity, plunges into scientific questions with which he has no real acquaintance, only to obscure them by an aimless rhetoric and distract the attention of his hearers from the real point at issue by eloquent digressions and skilled appeals to religious prejudice."

From this time onward Huxley became known as the bold exponent and advocate of Darwin's views. But he was known for more than this; he was known as the great biologist and apostle of science. His name was not only heard in England, but every continent where man strives after knowledge, where they recognize science as means of strengthening human culture.

He worked to make science an uplifter to mankind; he recognized that the world needs a stimulant by which the latent faculties may become excited into action. For these he worked; every nerve and muscle that he could strain was given up for science; every thought how vile and bitter must be overcome. For these he worked, he lived, and conquered. Were it possible to obliterate all his works, he would still be known as the Great Huxley.

He recognized the two conceptions of man and the universe. The one theologic and the other scientific. The former he claimed was based on errors and myths, and the latter was the only uplifting factor of humanity. Whether he was right or wrong posterity alone can judge.

So, after having fought his battles for the establishment of science on a firm and sound basis, after inculcating that truth was the only guide of men's thoughts and actions, he took solace with his family. His last days were spent in peace and happiness with his dear ones. In 1895, on the 24th of June, he was laid to rest.

The visitors approaching the tombstone on the northern heights of London, where the sun is shining bright, will read the following epitaph, inscribed by his wife:

"And if there be no meeting past the grave,
If all is darkness, silence, yet 'tis rest.
Be not afraid, ye waiting hearts that weep,
For God 'still giveth his beloved sleep,'
And if an endless sleep he wills—so best."

LOUIS HIRSCHOWITZ, '03.



SELF-CONTROL.

Of the many hyphenated "selves," self-control probably heads the list in point of importance bearing upon life and its duties.

We can all be angry (he is a fool who can not), but there are not many who *will* not. There lies individual strength of character. He *can* be angry, yet *will* not.

Among other grand achievements (?) this is an age of publicity. Especially does the public official, the man who acts for the many, and often, very often for himself, know this. Let him utter an unguarded remark, let him but lose self-control for one moment; the omniverous newspaper will repeat and magnify his utterance and spread it over the vast country to be read by countless thousands of intelligent voters.

While the best government in school as well as real life is that which teaches us to govern ourselves, it is highly essential that the teacher possess a superb control of self and thus indirectly govern the pupils. Having a powerful influence in moulding the character of the pupils, the teacher above all must guard against giving way to violent or abusive words in the presence of the pupils. Not only will he lessen his respect and authority among his pupils, but also will he be creating an injustice to the parents of the pupils, who regard the teacher as an adjunct in forming successful men and women of their children. W. J. S.

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EDITORIALS.

Farewell! With this issue we sever our connections and lay down the editorial pen, with the assurance that our successors will carry on the work.

It is with a feeling of regret that we reluctantly resign our task. It has given us hope, comfort, and the responsibility of executing a long anticipated project. The work has been congenial, the disappointments at times keen, but the pleasure and experience derived have counterbalanced all obstacles and impediments.

The paper was started with a modest purpose; that the paper will continue consistent with its object, is the wish of the retiring staff.

The end of college days draws nigh. In the dim and obscure horizon that clouds the future, the student looks forward, before, and around for the entrance upon a new career. Some leave with high hope and ambitions, others dejected and melancholy, others self-reliant and

filled with the determination of leading upright lives.

Alas! age will not perform the promises of youth. The first shock casts us helplessly and, apparently, hopelessly ashore. We drift for a while and finally realize that our existence is a reality. Our college life was but a dream. With commencement near at hand we realize that the solemn duties of life have begun.

The election of the staff to serve for the ensuing term was held on the 12th of May. The election was highly satisfactory and the old staff retires feeling that those elected to fill the vacancy are capable and equal to greater improvements and efforts than those achieved by the retiring staff.

The date of graduation has been fixed for June 26th. Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, is expected to deliver the oration.

Memorial Day, with its beauties and sacred memories, saw the cadet corps marching along in line of procession with the veterans.

Some people try to achieve great ends without adequate means.

The new staff is constituted as follows: Editor-in-Chief, William J. Serlin; Assistant Editor-in-Chief, Louis A. Hirschowitz; Business Manager, Charles S. Heller; Assistant Business Manager, Louis Burd; Agricultural, George S. Borovick; Personals and Socials, Maurice Mitzmain; Athletics, Bernard A. Zalinginger; Exchange, Elmore Lee.

If some students had as much ability as they would like to, they might be prodigies.

AGRICULTURAL.

PLANT IMPROVEMENT.

No subject seems to be of more importance to the farmer or gardner than the improvement of cultivated plants. As the amount of tillable land increases and operations become more intensified, the demand for a variety of plants adaptable to different climes and soils becomes greater. Varieties suitable for cultivation in the New England States may be a total failure in the South; those grown in hurried districts will not withstand severe droughts in the arid West. The careful selection of proper varieties suitable for our purpose, then, is not only a necessity, but determines whether efforts expended will be attended with failure or success.

When the settlers began their agricultural careers in America, they brought foreign varieties of fruits, vegetables, etc., with them for cultivation, but the difference in climate and environments between Europe and the newly settled country made it necessary to originate and cultivate varieties adaptable to the new conditions. The knowledge possessed for the accomplishment of such a task in that period was very crude; yet circumstances made such work necessary and the subject received due investigation.

Intelligent plant breeding received its first impetus the latter part of the eighteenth century, when the sexuality of plants was experimentally proven in 1691. The first hybrid, or cross between plants of different species, was made in 1719 between the carnation and sweet william, by an English gardner. During the early part of the last century Knight, a noted physiologist, began a systematic breeding of plants and advocated crossing and hybridizing, in his works, as a

valuable means for improvement. Later on prominent writers and plant breeders, among whom was Van Mons, the Belgian horticulturist, advanced the theory of seed selection. With the promulgation of theories and their adoption in actual practice, the foundation was securely laid for the progressive building of the art which followed.

The first half of the last century saw melioration carried on, mainly by selection, which included the choosing and planting of seeds from plants growing better than the rest and coming nearer to the ideas of improvement in growth. Crossing and hybridization came into use toward the middle of the century and the progress in the originating of new varieties was rapid.

The capabilities of the tomato plant were hardly known in 1802, and when introduced into Massachusetts by an Italian painter he had considerable trouble—combating superstition and ignorance—in convincing the inhabitants of the food value of the vegetable. From its first cultivation as an ornamental plant it gradually improved until these habits gave way to an artificial quality of producing food in abundance. Most of our present flowers were hardly known a century ago; the vegetables and fruits now existing are phenomenally changed in size, keeping quality, taste, form, etc., over those grown several decades ago. Variegated colors in flowers which were never known to be combined before are now produced at pleasure by the aid of a knowledge of plant life, its structure, and reproduction.

In a wild state plants are subject to the laws of the "survival of the fittest." Being crowded together and partially shaded at times, with a limited supply of moisture and food, their improvement is slow, if at all. Only a few out of

hundreds complete their round of life and produce seed for the continuation of the species. Improper food and unfavorable environment retards the development of all life. To promote development in addition to growth and seed production the disadvantages must be removed by culture. As a natural means for betterment, culture has exercised a vast influence in originating our present perfected varieties. By its practice light, heat, space, food and congenial environment in abundance are supplied for a mature growth and a yielding of other desirable qualities, such as sweetness, size, etc., in fruits and vegetables.

The next method that naturally suggests itself in culture is the selection and resowing of seed from the best-grown plants. Previous to our knowledge of crossing and hybridization, seed and plant selection constituted the only means for plant melioration. The process was slow and frequently uncertain, due to the effects of foreign pollen falling upon the stigma and transmitting its undesirable characters to the seed; but by removing the plant from all unfavorable surroundings good results are obtainable and selection becomes a valuable aid to the farmer and gardener.

Plants are very unstable in their habits, and often the kind of culture induces either a retrogressive or progressive variation in their characters. Inferior changes indicate either unfavorable surroundings or improper care, and if these are continued for some time there is a gradual deterioration and a return to their wild state. Variations producing superior characters, which are the result of proper culture, are sought and taken care of, so as to perpetuate such improvements. Thus new varieties are frequently brought into existence. Propagation by division, including cuttings

and buddings, is a method employed to fix desirable variations and preserve them for future improvement. The selection and continued planting of seed from those exhibiting the change constitutes a practice adopted by seed growers and gardeners generally, and serves to strengthen the variation, so that it may be transmitted from parent to offspring.

The theories advanced by Knight and other later scientists regarding crossing or pollination and hybridization of plants belonging to one variety or species with that of another has been largely put in practice by breeders, and are important systems for procuring desirable qualities possessed by the different plants and strengthening the already existing characters. Having a fruit noted for its form, taste, flavor and size, but lacking in keeping quality, we may improve the keeping quality of our stock by crossing with those varieties famous as good keepers. So we are enabled by this practice to gather together what we desire from among grown varieties, and combining and fixing them into one variety.

Reviewing what was done within nearly half a century in this line, the value of plant breeding to agriculture and gardening may be measured and realized. The development of flowers, such as roses, chrysanthemums, carnations, begonias, cosmos, from small insignificant wild plants to ones admired for their beauty, fragrance, variety of forms and color; the progress of small fruits from unprofitable foreign varieties to those entirely surpassing original imports in productiveness, usefulness and profitability; the evolving of tender, appetizing vegetables from the inferior fibrous and puny sorts; the marked increase in size, productiveness and quality of our cereals—all serve to illustrate the plasticity of plant characters and the effect of artificial means employed to assist nature.

PERSONALS AND SOCIALS.

Soph—"Why would a man with a glass eye be debarred from voting?"

Fresh—"Why?"

Soph—"Because he isn't naturalized" (natural eyes'd).

In this enlightened age the cabbage crop is about the only thing the hayseed can raise to get ahead.

A feature of the literary program on the evening of the 25th was the mock trial in which all the students participated. The trial was a comical affair and was enjoyed by all.

One of our professors is often seen in a "'Brown' study."

"Procrastination is the thief of time." It must also be a murderer, for you kill time by procrastinating.

Some men would have to be excellent shots to blow out their brains.

Waiter (to Hirschowitz, '03)—"What's your order?"

Hirschowitz, '03 (promptly)—"Mam-malia, of course."

'During the mock trial at the Literary Society: Ibaugh, '01 (lawyer for the defense)—"I suppose when the footpads held you up you were greatly incensed."

Heller, '02 (the victim, who was robbed of seventy-nine cents)—"Well, they left me centsless."

The Farm School Cadets joined Company G, of Doylestown, in parade on Memorial Day.

Our clock is badly run down, both hands being broken and its face greatly disfigured. 'Tis feared that it will come to an untimely end.

Advice for housekeepers: To keep moths out of your winter clothing—give them away.

If dress makes the monk, then the want of it naturally makes the monkey, of course.

(The above is sheer monkey business.)

Freshy—"Who was The Man in the Iron Mask?"

Soph—"Catcher of the N. F. S. base ball team."

Some people set themselves up as examples, but it can't be figured out what they amount to.

Man is made out of mortal clay,

And so, too, is our land.

But with me you will agree

That both need lots of sand.

A Junior seeing a petrified man in the Natural Science Museum exclaimed, "He's a gneiss sort of man."

Freshman—"What does the eagle on the U. S. coins represent?"

Senior—"I suppose it is to show that money flies."

On May 11th Rev. Mr. Deming, of Doylestown, addressed the Literary Society on "Great Artists and their Masterpieces."

Our students' language is characterized by Freshman slanguage.

ENTOMOLOGICAL GLEANINGS.

The cicada is a humbug,

The lasioderma serricoma is a cigarette fiend,

The psocidae is a book-worm,

The mosquito is a full-blooded animal—it has some of the best blood of the land in its veins.

Overheard: "Do your legs pain you?" said the Professor to a Freshman whose pedal extremities were on the desk. "No, sir," replied the Freshman, "but why do you ask?" "I thought they were out of place," answered the Professor.

ATHLETICS,

BASE BALL.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather, no base ball game was played with any outside team. However, the weather was not such as to stop the game between the Regulars and the Scrubs. To even sides up, Mitzmain and Rich of the Regulars were the battery for the Scrubs. The game opened with the Scrubs having the inns.

Goldman opened the game with a pop fly to short-stop. Sadler followed by knocking a grass cutter to third base; reached first safely on account of wild throw. Borovick retired on three strikes. Hirschowitz then came to the bat; the fielders widened out, expecting a sky scraper. The fly was knocked, but only to be caught by the pitcher. This made three outs and the Regulars came in on a brisk run.

Kerchersky's bat met the ball for a two-bagger. Ibaugh reached first through an error of the short-stop. Lee followed with a hot liner to pitcher and retired. Levy sent the ball over first baseman's head, bringing in the first run; he reached first base safe. Monblatt's bat went through the air three times. Heller then knocked a fly to centre field. The ball didn't touch the ground. Three men were left on bases.

Rich started out with a two-bagger, but was forced out by the next man hitting the ball to short, which was thrown to second. It would have been a double play, but owing to a wild throw Serlin reached first. Zalinger came to the bat; his eyes were cast over centre field's head, expecting the ball to follow. He retired on three strikes.

At the end of the fourth inning the score was eight to two in favor of the Regulars. In the fifth inning Mitzmain

did his best work; he declined toward the end. The Regulars were too strong for him. His balls were swift, but rather wild, but with the right backing the score would have been much closer.

The Regulars are weak on grounders and do not play together enough. Always remember, "United we stand, divided we fall."

REGULARS.

	R	H	PO	A	E
Kerchersky ss.....	4	3	4	6	2
Ibaugh cf.....	2	0	1	0	0
Lee lf.....	1	1	0	0	0
Levy c.....	2	3	11	2	1
Monblatt 3b.....	0	1	1	1	3
Heller 2b.....	2	0	3	3	0
Burd rf.....	0	2	0	0	0
Pizer 1b.....	3	1	6	2	0
Tennenbaum p.....	3	2	1	0	0

SCRUBS.

	R	H	PO	A	E
Goldman 1b.....	1	0	7	4	3
Sadler 2b.....	0	0	0	3	0
Borovick 3b.....	0	0	1	3	2
Hirschowitz rf.....	1	1	2	2	4
Rich c.....	2	1	9	0	0
Serlin cf.....	0	0	3	0	2
Kirsch lf.....	0	0	3	0	1
Zalinger ss.....	0	1	2	4	5
Mitzmain p.....	2	2	1	1	0

Base ball seems to be a dead sport. Every now and then there is a revival owing to an overabundance of zeal. A realization finds the team in the same condition and consequently nothing is ever accomplished; at least, nothing worthy of mention.

That such a state of affairs should exist can only find a plausible answer in the lack of a true sporting spirit or a lack of appreciation of the fine points of the game.

A surprise, which may be a surprise both ways, seems in store for us. A game has been arranged, the first and in all probability the last of the season. The shock is too severe to be worked off in one season. So we must rest content until the next.



If some people can't borrow trouble they will steal it.—E.r

EXCHANGES.

The recent election of THE GLEANER staff by the students marks a mile-stone in the history of our journal. Let us pause; let us take breath. And yet why pause? why take breath? Is it to pat ourselves on the back and rest with a self-satisfied smile at having reached the auspicious event of a second election? To be sure, a good reason; but we have no time to rest. Onward and forward! To the students constant vigilance is the price of THE GLEANER.

It is with sincere regret that the present exchange editor severs his direct relations with the numerous exchanges. Like a set of manly fellows are they—congenial, pleasant and friendly.

The future editor of this department will be Elmore Lee. While we trust the duties of the position will be a source of pleasure to Mr. Lee, yet it must be borne in mind that this depends entirely upon his individual efforts, and our wishes will avail him nothing.

Exchanges received: *Red and Blue, Mirror, Red and Black, Students' Herald, High School Journal* (Wilkes-Barre), *White and Blue, Iris, Archive, Mirror and Normal Pennant* (San Jose, Cal.)

GLEANINGS.

MENIPPUS MUSES WITH THE CLOCK.

Old clock, I hope I don't intrude
Upon your ancient solitude;
Fact is, I'm kind of lonesome, so
I thought—you'll hardly mind, I know—
That comradeship with only you
Might help beguile an hour or two.

* * * * *

How quaint and grim thine ebon case,

Those sportive Dryads on thy face,
How do they breathe through all thy
grime
The glamor of ye olden time.
I see, as through a winter haze,
Thy treasure store of finished days.
You gallant, gay and coy coquette,
Still trip the stately minuet;
Yet seem to glance a sad "Beware"—
As if the hand that throned them there
Would warn the careless passerby
That hours of gladness wane and die.
Two chubby playmates on the floor,
Pale students swathed in classic lore,
Prim maidens, shy and fancy free—
Frail girlhood, giggling furtively,
Charged to the brim with secrets vast—
All buried in the silent past.
There's grandpa, dozing in his chair
Beside the fireplace, over there;
Forgotten "specs" upon his nose,
In dreamless, peaceful, sweet repose;
Ev'n as, I pray, he shall abide
Through Death's eternal eventide.
Poor wretched mortals, doomed to die,
Learn of the clock, nor seek the why.
What matters business, pleasure, art—
The toils that wreck the pulsing heart?
How vain the strife for sordid pelf,
How base the aims that end in self—
A single chime! What? Half-past eight?
"Bon soir," old clock, I have a date.
—*Exchange.*

////

Senior Partner—"We must dismiss that traveller of ours. He told one of our customers that I was a fool."

Junior Ditto—"I'll see him at once and insist upon his keeping the firm's secrets."—*Ex.*

Father—"John, can't you possibly cut down your college expenses?"

Son—"Well, I might possibly get along without my books."—*Ex.*

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